

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/641,512

Applicant(s)

TSUKAHARA ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Taghi T. Arani, Ph.D.

2131

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/22/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 18 August 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

E. Moise
EMMANUEL L. MOISE
PRIMARY EXAMINER
8/11/2/36

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with attorney Michael R. Cammarata on 12/09/2004.

Replace claims 2 and 12 with (currently amended) claims 2 and 12 as below.

2. (Currently amended) A conditional access system comprising:

a demultiplexer for demultiplexing a packet stream transmitted from a transmitting site into encrypted coded media data, an ECM (Entitlement Control Message) and an EMM (Entitlement Management Message);

an EMM decryption section for retrieving work keys and partial viewing authorization information from the EMM extracted by said demultiplexer;

an ECM decryption section for decrypting the ECM using the work keys and for retrieving scrambling keys from the ECM, when the partial viewing authorization information retrieved by said EMM decryption section permits partial viewing, wherein said ECM decryption section retrieves only part of the scrambling keys included in the ECM;

a media data descrambling section for intermittently descrambling the coded media data using the scrambling keys which are intermittently retrieved from said ECM decryption

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section; and

a decoding section for decoding the coded media data intermittently descrambled by said media data descrambling section.

12. (Currently amended) A conditional access system comprising:

a demultiplexer for demultiplexing a packet stream transmitted from a transmitting site into encrypted coded media data, an ECM (Entitlement Control Message) and an EMM (Entitlement Management Message);

an EMM decryption section for retrieving partial viewing authorization information from the EMM extracted by said demultiplexer, said EMM decryption section retrieving work keys from the EMM when the partial viewing authorization information permits partial viewing;

an ECM decryption section for intermittently decrypting the ECM using the work keys which are intermittently retrieved from said EMM decryption section and for intermittently retrieving scrambling keys from the ECM, wherein said EMM decryption section retrieves all the work keys included in the EMM and supplies only part of the work keys to said ECM decryption section;

a media data descrambling section for intermittently descrambling the coded media data using the scrambling keys intermittently retrieved by said ECM decryption section; and
a decoding section for decoding the coded media data intermittently descrambled by said media data descrambling section.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

Claims 1-19 are allowed over prior art.

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The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for the indication of allowable claimed subject matter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

As per independent claims 1-4, 6, 9-10, 12-13 (considering claim 10 as a broader claim), closest prior art of record directed to Wasilewski et al. teach a conditional access system comprising:

- a demultiplexer for demultiplexing a packet stream transmitted from a transmitting site into encrypted coded media data, an ECM (Entitlement Control Message) and an EMM (Entitlement Management Message);

- an EMM decryption section for retrieving work keys the EMM extracted by said demultiplexer;

- an ECM decryption section for decrypting the ECM using the work keys and for retrieving scrambling keys from the ECM;

- a media data descrambling section for descrambling the coded media data using the scrambling keys which are retrieved from said ECM decryption section; and

- a decoding section for decoding the coded media data descrambled by said media data descrambling section;

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Wasilewski does not teach decoding section decodes all the coded media data descrambled by said media data descrambling section and supplies only part of the decoded coded media data to a television receiver.

Wasilewski does not teach nor suggest intermittently decrypting, descrambling, or decoding from receiving control information to alternately enable and disable decrypting, descrambling, or decoding, when partial viewing authorization permits partial viewing. In contrast, Wasilewski provides continuous decrypting, descrambling, and decoding as performed by the set-top box for encrypted programs (instance) received from the broadcast system for those subscribers entitled to watch the program (advance authorization for full viewing of the broadcast program). (see FIG. col. 4, lines 52-677 col. lines 1-6).

None of the prior art of record, either taken by itself or in any combination, would have anticipated or made obvious the invention of the present application at or before the time it was files.

Depended claims 5, 7-8,11 and 14-19 are also allowed over prior art by virtue of their dependencies.

Conclusion

Prior art made of record, not relied upon.

US 2004/0068541 is directed A digital satellite television system has a plurality of set-top-boxes associated with a plurality of end users' television receivers, a modem and a decoder housed in each STB, a Subscriber Authorization System (SAS) incorporating or having associated therewith a plurality of communication servers, means included in the SAS for generating Electronic Managements Messages (EMM), a back channel interconnecting each of

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the STBs individually with the SAS, means included in the SAS and each STB so that the necessary information required to inject a relevant EMM into the system is supplied directly to the relevant communication server included in or associated with the SAS to authorize the release of the said EMM and/or means to connect the modem to the back channel and means whereby an EMM is transmissible to the decoder directly from a relevant communication server included in or associated with the SAS.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Taghi T. Arani whose telephone number is (571) 272-3787. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz Sheikh can be reached on (571) 272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Art Unit 2131

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